

The Semi-Weekly Messenger.

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MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS.

A DEFECT IN THE LAW CURED BY AN ORDER OF COURT.

Justice Furches Grants an Order for Holding the Election at Louisville—Two Horses Reel Horribly Burned to Death—Governor Russell's Reasons for Granting Two More Pardons—Next Volume of Supreme Court Reports—Blockade Still Captured.

(Special to The Messenger.)

Raleigh, N. C., April 7.—Before Associate Justice Furches today there was argument in an important case. The legislature in its recent act regarding elections required registrars and judges of elections in all places which have no charter, to be appointed forty days before election. The time had passed at Louisville, and appointments had not been made. A motion was made for an order by the judge to compel the election board, which under the new law is composed of the clerk of court, the register of deeds and the chairman of the county commissioners, to make the appointments. Judge Furches this evening granted the order asked for and directed the appointment of registrars and judges and the holding of the election.

A lamp on the horse reel exploded in the house of the Victor Fire Company (colored) here tonight and ignited the bedding of the horses, burned to death two horses and ruined the truck and some horse. The loss approximately \$1,000. The horses were two of the best in the city.

Governor Russell pardons Joseph J. Williams, convicted of manslaughter at the January term, 1885, of Wake superior court and sentenced to fifteen years in the penitentiary. He gives as his reasons: "There appear many mitigating circumstances connected with this case. The prisoner has already served twelve years, and by reason of good behavior will be entitled to be discharged next November. By request of Mayor Russ, of Raleigh; Hon. T. C. Fuller and other leading men, and because of these facts, pardon is granted."

In the matter of the pardon of Henry Harris, convicted of secret assault, the governor makes the following endorsement: "It appears that this man is a quiet, peaceful citizen and that this conviction grew out of political excitement, and a pardon is strongly recommended by William P. Bynum, Jr., prosecuting solicitor for the state. The pardon is granted upon condition that the defendant pays all costs of the indictment, trial, conviction and appeal."

The secretary of state announces that the 119th supreme court reports will be ready for issue in two weeks.

Revenue officers today captured near Cary, this county, an illicit distillery.

Decision on the Dispensary Law.

Columbia, S. C., April 7.—The supreme court of the state today rendered a decision which affirms that no man can keep any liquor in his house or place of business, for a lawful purpose such as personal use unless the vessel in which it is kept has a certificate upon it from the state liquor commissioner. The case comes up on appeal from Oconee county where liquor was seized by constables from the residence of a citizen whom the testimony showed only kept it for personal use and not for sale. Chief Justice Milner and Justice Gary agreed that it was not a criminal offense to keep such liquor without certificate of the liquor commissioner. Justices Jones and Pope agreed that it was criminal and when the court is divided, the decision of the lower court is affirmed, which found the citizen guilty and sentenced him to three months on the chain gang. The defendant is named Chastain and is a thoroughly respectable man. It is expected that a new hearing will be asked for and the case heard by the court en banc and in the meantime sentence will not be executed.

Weyler Inspects Puerto Principe Troops.

Havana, April 7.—Captain General Weyler arrived at Jucaro, province of Puerto Principe, at 3 o'clock yesterday morning on board the Spanish gunboat Satellite. From that vessel he was landed in a boat at the Diego Valasquez wharf at 6 o'clock a. m. and visited and inspected several of the forts along the military line. He expressed himself as being highly satisfied with the work done along the military line which, by the way, was directed by the captain general personally from his headquarters at Havana, assisted by the chief of the engineers, General Gago.

A Fire in Canidia.

Canidia, April 7.—A fire has broken out at Canidia, near the cathedral, and a number of houses are now in flames. The British and Italian troops are demolishing the adjacent buildings in order to check the spread of the conflagration.

WESTERN RAILROADS

Trying to Organize a Passenger Association That Will Stand the Courts—Fear of a War in Freight Rates.

Chicago, April 7.—The general passenger agents of the western roads did not adopt an agreement for the Western Passenger Association today. The committee that has the agreement under consideration for the last ten days presented its report, and, contrary to the general expectation, it was not as acceptable as it was expected that it would be. It was found that the proposed agreement did not cover as much ground as the majority of the lines desired, and it was thought that an agreement could be framed that would include some things which the committee had not commended, and which would be entirely within the scope of the decision of the supreme court. In order to prevent any series of references back and forth between the attorneys of the roads and the general passenger agents, it was decided that a committee of the passenger men should go over the agreement in company with the attorneys, and that they should endeavor to get as much of the old agreement into the new agreement as is possible, and at the same time keep within the scope of the court's decision. The combined committee of passenger agents and attorneys will report to the general meeting next Tuesday.

Freight traffic officials of the western roads and those engaged in transportation business as well, are feeling none too confident over the prospect of keeping up rates. As soon as any road endeavors to work any sharp games upon its competitors, it will be dragged without ceremony before the interstate commerce commission, if there is anything in its conduct that will make such proceedings possible, but just now this is not having the effect that it was thought it would exercise. Several of the roads are becoming restive over the large amount of business that is going away from them and to the standard lines, and they have intimated very plainly that they will not endure the conditions much longer, and if some measure is not taken for their relief they will go after the business as best they know how. If this program is once begun there is no telling where the demoralization will stop, as none of the roads are making so much on their freight traffic at the present time that they can afford to let any of it get away.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

To Congress Urging an Appropriation for the Relief of the People of the Flooded Districts in the West.

Washington, April 7.—The president today sent a message to the senate and house of representatives, detailing the deplorable condition of the flood devastated section of the country and says: "Under such circumstances the citizens of these states look for the co-operation and support of the national government in relieving the pressing cases of destitution for food, clothing and shelter, which are beyond the reach of local efforts. The authorities who have communicated with the executive recognize that their first and most energetic duty is to provide, as far as possible, the means of caring for their own citizens, but nearly all of them agree in the opinion that after their resources have been exhausted a sum aggregating at least \$150,000 and possibly \$200,000 will be required for immediate use."

"Precedents are not wanting that in such emergencies as this congress has taken prompt, generous and intelligent action. Involving the expenditure of considerable sums of money with satisfactory results. In 1874, \$500,000 was appropriated and in 1882, \$350,000 was also appropriated for relief in the same direction, besides large sums in other years."

"The citizens relief committee of Memphis, which has taken prompt action, has already cared for from 6,000 to 7,000 refugees from the flooded districts and they are still arriving in that city in large numbers daily. Supplies and provisions have been sent to the various points in Arkansas and Mississippi by this committee, but the utmost that can be done by these efforts is to partly relieve the most acute cases of suffering. No action has yet been taken for the great majority of the inhabitants living in the interior, whose condition is already described. Under these conditions and having exerted themselves to the fullest extent, the local authorities have reluctantly confessed their inability to further cope with this distressing situation unless by relief from the government. It has therefore seemed to me that the representatives of the people should be promptly informed of the nature and extent of the suffering and the needs of these stricken people, and I have communicated these facts in the hope and belief that the legislative branch of the government will promptly re-enforce the work of the local authorities in the states named."

No Quorum Present

Frankfort, Ky., April 7.—When the joint legislative session was called to order by President Worthington today the gold and the silver democrats and the republicans failed to answer to their names, thus breaking a quorum. The roll call showed sixty-one present, but a ballot was ordered. The republicans as usual, voted for Hunter, who received sixty votes. No other votes were cast, and President Worthington announced no quorum and no election. On motion of Senator Clarke, one of the bolting republicans, the assembly adjourned, after being in session just seven minutes.

General Lee Detained in Cuba

Richmond, Va., April 7.—Consul General Fitzhugh Lee has written a friend here that he will be unable to leave Cuba April 15th, as he expected and that he will be delayed in Havana until the latter part of May or early in June. General Lee was forced to decline an invitation to deliver an address on Cuba before the United Confederate Memorial Society on April 28th.

A REMARKABLE DISCOVERY

BY JUSTICE CLARK AS TO EARLY HISTORY OF AMERICA.

A Spanish Settlement Ante-Dating the Heretofore Supposed Earliest One on the Continent—Difficulties of Local Taxation for Public Schools—More Convicts Pardoned—Department of Justice Inimical to Judge Dick—Adjutant General Cowles to be Minister to Greece.

Messenger Bureau, Park Hotel.

Raleigh, N. C., April 7.

Associate Justice Walter Clark has made the interesting discovery that nearly sixty years before the expedition of Sir Walter Raleigh landed at Roanoke island and eighty-one years before John Smith landed at Jamestown, the Spaniards made a settlement on the identical spot afterwards occupied by the English as Jamestown. This Spanish colony consisted of 600 persons, men, women and children, with priests and physicians, horses and cattle. D'Aillon, the leader, died of malaria, civil war broke out and after a year the colony, named San Miguel, was abandoned. Its very existence was unknown even to Bancroft, but recent researches in the royal library in Spain unearthed the records of this earliest and unfortunate colony, which antedated St. Augustine forty years.

The state superintendent of public instruction says he knew all the while there would be opposition to the new law to encourage local taxation for public schools. He decides that the word "district" in the act means township, since the township is the smallest territory authorized to levy a tax. There will be in a few cases some hardship, where a school district now comprises parts of several townships, and this will necessitate some removals of boundaries.

Work is being pushed on the large annex to the hospital for the insane here so it can be occupied by June 1st. On each of the four floors are wards for twenty-five male patients, and there are bath rooms and a ward dining room on each floor. In the new annex to the female wing there is a convalescent dining room.

The governor pardons Henry Harris, Granville county, who was convicted of an assault growing out of some political quarrel. He also pardons John W. Benson, ex-treasurer of Bladen county, who was convicted of embezzling \$6,000 of county funds. Benson was absent quite a while, but returned and gave himself up.

A "new era" institute of the colored Baptists is in progress here. The white Baptists are co-operating in this work in the method of the directions of their state convention.

Cladius Dockery is to deliver the address May 30th, decoration day, at the great national cemetery at Salisbury.

The weather report for March says that here the highest temperature was 80, the lowest 21. There were five frosts, two of them killing. The rainfall was 4.38 inches.

The statement is made that the department of justice is inimical to Judge Robert P. Dick, of the Western district. This is strange, in view of his long and valuable service on the bench.

Interests in the approaching session of the State Teachers' Assembly at Morehead City is greater than in a number of years past. Its sessions will be held in the building it formerly occupied, but in a new room in the hall and high school of Morehead City.

The Moravians held a "love feast" here last evening—the first ever held by that denomination anywhere in this section of the state.

Rosens have begun to bloom here. It is regarded as extraordinarily early. In a few days State Mine Inspector Hamrick will go to the coal mine at Cumcock. This is really the only mine covered by the new mining inspection law, which was drawn only to cover coal mines.

The new directors of the North Carolina railway are to take charge this month, it is said.

One of the bills of the state board of internal improvements, has been here three days, in conference with Governor Russell and Attorney General Walsler.

The injunction case of Tucker against the governor and directors of the Atlantic and North Carolina railway, is continued by Judge Simon until June 9th, at Asheville. Then it will come up the day after the one set for the hearing of the North Carolina railway lease case.

Adjutant General Andrew D. Cowles, of this state, is to be minister to Greece. This is said to be definitely agreed on.

One of the queer acts passed by the late lamented legislature "To Prevent Stock from Running at Large in the Town of Sparta, Alleghany County, and to Promote the Health of that place." It prohibits, under penalty of \$100, that no chicken house shall be within 100 feet of any dwelling. It is suggested by wags that this is "For the Promotion of Chicken Stealing and the Encouragement of Camp Meetings."

An effort was made to pass a cigarette law. It failed for the state, but a law did pass as to the town of Columbus, Polk county, prohibiting the sale therein of cigarettes to any person whatever.

The "sheriff's institute" is the newest thing in the way of conventions. Three weeks ago it was first talked of, in the office of the state treasurer. Your correspondent thought the whole business was a joke and so suggested that Treasurer Worth lecture in the morning on the revenue act and Chief Clerk Denmark in the afternoon on the "machinery act," and that between these entertaining feasts there be illustrations to sheriffs of the best methods of hanging, of chasing criminals with bloodhounds and of pistol shooting at criminals trying to escape.

Governor Russell gives the following reasons for pardoning James M. Benson, convicted of embezzlement at the fall term, 1895, of Bladen superior court, and sentenced to three years in the state prison:

"This pardon is vigorously urged by Hon. James D. McDowell, and is recommended by the county attorney who prosecuted in the case, and there is reason to believe that misapplication of the funds by the prisoner was not with

corrupt intent and that others got the benefit of such misapplications; and the prisoner has already served one year and a half in the state's prison, and it further appears that the prevailing public sentiment of Bladen is in favor of his pardon, which is asked for in writing by large numbers of good men in the county."

ANOTHER FLOOD CRISIS.

The Overflow Water Returning to the Mississippi Through the Yazoo River—To Cause a Severe Strain on the Levees About Vicksburg—News From Other Flooded Districts.

Memphis, Tenn., April 7.—The supreme test of the levees south of Vicksburg and Arkansas City, is fast approaching. The river at Vicksburg has been falling for some days on account of the rush of waters from the main channel through the crevasse above into the Yazoo delta. This water is again returning to the channel through the mouth of the Yazoo river and its influence is being felt at Vicksburg where the gauge is now marking higher figures. Within a few days the crest of the rise will be opposite Vicksburg and the channel will continue to deepen unless the levees break. The Louisiana people keenly realize the gravity of the situation. The destruction wrought by the water in the St. Francis basin and the Yazoo delta may be repeated in the Tensas basin, which begins in southeastern Arkansas and extends through the northeastern counties of Louisiana. Material and men are being hurried forward and the effort that had marked the work of those in charge of the lower levees has been doubled.

The news of the action of the congress in appropriating a large sum for the relief of the sufferers was gratefully received here and throughout the flooded districts. The prompt action of the president and secretary of war is especially commended. The tax on the energies of the people of Memphis has been great, previous demands having been fully met.

The river at Memphis is slowly falling, caused at Cairo shows a gratifying decline. For the first time in four weeks, the Kansas City, Memphis and Fort Scott railroad runs its trains over the line passing through the St. Francis basin.

The citizens relief committee, through W. A. Gage, chairman, issued the following tonight:

"The citizens relief committee of the city of Memphis, having received official information from Washington that the government has appropriated \$200,000 for the relief of the flood sufferers and that said appropriation is immediately available, we beg to announce that their recent call on the public is hereby withdrawn. The citizens relief committee take this method of thanking a most generous public for the many donations received, and to assure each and all that their contributions have done an immense amount of good and have been highly appreciated."

The river here is making itself felt. The sand bars which have been a prominent feature are now completely under water and the wagon road leading through the Missouri bottoms to the bridge is partly submerged. The river is full of logs, driftwood and lumber which has been brought down from above. A rise of a few inches more will sweep into the stream the large stores of sand piled along the river's bank. Grave fears are entertained that the rise portends a serious flood.

Yankton, S. D., April 7.—Never before in the history of this section of this country has there occurred a flood that compares with the one now raging in the James river valley. Railroads have suffered great loss by the floods. No trains have entered here for nearly a week, and it will probably be a month before railroad traffic is restored to its normal condition. Farmers are well prepared for the worst.

Clarksdale, Miss., April 7.—Since yesterday afternoon the Sunflower river is full of logs, driftwood and lumber which has been brought down from above. A rise of a few inches more will sweep into the stream the large stores of sand piled along the river's bank. Grave fears are entertained that the rise portends a serious flood.

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QUEEN OF OUR NAVY.

THE BATTLESHIP IOWA WINS THE TITLE ON HER TRIAL.

She Returns From Her Trip With a Broom at Her Masthead—The Massachusetts and the Indiana Surpassed—She Makes an Average Speed of Seventeen Knots an Hour and Wins \$300,000 Bonus for Her Builders—Her Maneuvering Superb.

Boston, April 7.—The battleship Iowa, the last of the premium built battleships of the navy, earned today for her builders, Messrs. William Cramp & Son, of Philadelphia, \$200,000 by making an average speed of seventeen knots an hour over the regular government course off the Massachusetts coast in the four hours speed trial required by the government under the contract.

The Iowa by her grand work, proved herself to be superior to either the Indiana or the Massachusetts by a considerable fraction of a knot, and is today the acknowledged queen of the American navy, if not the most formidable battleship afloat.

The weather could not have been surpassed. A light northerly air, shifting to northeast just as the trial began, helped the forced draught considerably, and a shift still further east on the run back did not hamper the work of the big blowers.

The trial boat came down from the city about 8 o'clock, and with them some 200 guests of the builders, as well as many naval officers stationed in and about Boston. The ship got under way almost immediately, heading straight for the twin lights on Cape Ann, and after a run of over an hour the first mark boat, the crack-a-lack of the navy, the Porter, was sighted, with the black buoy not far off, denoting the beginning of the thirty-three knot course. Like a race horse not quite prepared for her great effort, the Iowa scored twice, running up to within a mile of the line and then shying off out to sea, in order to bottle up a little more steam and develop a few hundred more horse-power.

At the very outset of the trial it was evident that every one of the picked crew was in dead earnest.

There was not the slightest deviation in the course as the ship rushed by the second mark boat, making the leg in 16.80, which was very satisfactory. The very next leg of the course the ship began to show what was in her, for she topped the seventeen knots an hour record by averaging a tenth over. This was still further increased on the next leg to 17.14, but on the fourth there was a falling off, which was decided in the last leg of the course was somewhat long.

While the ship was preparing for the run back the ready reckoners on board figured that on the run down to Boon Island, the Iowa had averaged exactly 16.87 knots per hour. The time was so close up to the builders' expectations that in order to consume the allotted four hours, the ship was spun around twice before starting back, and must have presented a grand spectacle from the shore as she cracked about. For 30 minutes and 45 seconds, she kept up her jockeying, and then she dashed for the line again, passing the last mark boat at 12:29:25. On this leg there was an average of 16.42 knots an hour, a gratifying increase over the last time in this leg.

For over an hour after passing the fifth mark boat the speed of the battleship did not apparently vary but the fifth part of a knot, supposing, of course, that the buoys were in the right positions. The fourth, third, and second legs of the course were all made in exactly the same time, 22 minutes and 42 seconds, so that when the second mark boat was passed the ship was only six nautical miles from the finish and glory, and the reckoners had figured that, barring accident, the ship would make something over seventeen knots. But there before the ship was the handicap of the course, the shallow water, a fact which had already held back her sister ships, cutting down their well earned premiums on more than one instance. Knowing this, every effort was made to get every pound of steam on and every inch of power. The seconds ticked off steadily as she hurried herself on to the mark and finishing sight, but still miles away. The margin over the seventeen knots became smaller, and as the ship rushed on it became a serious question whether she would get to the line in time. Fifty thousand dollars depended on the speed of the last fifty feet; a delay of one second might cut it off. The Iowa just did it, and that was all. In fact, so narrow was the margin that the reckoners of even the trial board had to carry their figures to the fourth point in order to make speed for the whole course average seventeen knots an hour.

It came out all right in the end, however, and with a broom on her fighting top the queen of the American navy, after two or three half circles to show just what she could do in quick maneuvering and speed headed headed for Boston.

The heavy turrets placed well above the water line gave her a much greater roll than the Indiana or Massachusetts, but except for this she was much steadier than the other battleships.

General Sanghilly Surrenders Himself.

Jacksonville, Fla., April 7.—General Isaac Sanghilly and Colonel Lachar, hearing that warrants had been issued for their apprehension on the charges of aiding and abetting a Cuban expedition, surrendered themselves this afternoon to the United States officials. They were taken before United States Commissioner Egan and their hearing was continued until Saturday morning. The information was furnished by Senator Pottus, Spanish vice consul for Jacksonville, and the affidavit states no time or place at which the alleged offense was committed. He is said to have sworn to the information at the direction of Minister de Lome of Washington. The prisoners were remanded to the care of J. M. Barra, who became surety for their appearance on Saturday.

Truth is a Nutshell.

Impure blood is the natural result of close confinement in house, school room or shop.

Blood is purified by Hood's Sarsaparilla, and all the disagreeable results of impure blood disappear with the use of this medicine.

If you wish to feel well, keep your blood pure with Hood's Sarsaparilla.

Hood's Pills are the best after dinner pill; assist digestion, cure headache, 25 cents.

Democratic Senatorial Caucus

Washington, April 7.—The democratic senators held a caucus after the adjournment of the senate today to consider the question of committee vacancies, but decided to postpone action until next Monday.



Celebrated for its great leavening strength and healthfulness, saves the food against alum and all forms of adulteration common to the cheap brands. Royal Baking Powder Co., New York.

Meeting of American Railway Association. Richmond, Va., April 7.—The semi-annual convention of the American Railway Association was called to order this morning by President E. T. D. Myers, of Richmond. Eight railroad systems were represented by twenty-five delegates. May 16th was chosen as the date for spring schedule changes. The report on safety appliances provoked much discussion. The conference committee reported some changes in the rules governing employees. Major E. T. D. Myers, president of the Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac railroad, was re-elected president. G. B. Thomas, president of the Erie railroad, vice president; C. W. Bradley, general superintendent of the West Shore railroad, second vice president. The association decided to hold its next meeting in New York.

Renewed Fighting in Crete.

Cania, Crete, April 7.—The insurgents of the vicinity of Kissamo, at the western end of the island, have written to the foreign admirals giving notice that they are projecting an attack upon the fort at Kissamo. The Turkish garrison there has asked for assistance. Two thousand insurgents have crowded around Sitia at the eastern end of the island, and a French warship has landed five guns in anticipation of an attack upon that place.

Trisk fighting took place today outside of Cania. The insurgents in considerable strength advanced from four points and attacked the Turkish outposts. The latter maintained their positions, with the loss of two men killed and eleven wounded.

A Wedding in High Life.

Baltimore, Md., April 7.—Miss Ida Catharine Gary, daughter of the postmaster general, was married here this afternoon to Mr. Francis Edward Pogram. The bride is Mr. Gary's fifth daughter, and his fourth to wed, the three unmarried daughters acting as bridesmaids. The ceremony was performed at Brown Memorial church by the Rev. Maltbie D. Babcock, who used the Episcopal services. Among those present were: The vice president and Mrs. Holart, Secretary of State Sherman, the secretary of the treasury, and Mrs. Gage, the secretary of war and Mrs. and Miss Agler, Secretary of Agriculture Wilson, Attorney General McKenna and Governor Lloyd Lowndes and Mrs. Lowndes. The wedding presents are handsome and numerous.

Investigating Charges of Discrimination.

Savannah, Ga., April 7.—The interstate commerce commission today began an investigation of the charges of alleged discriminations on fertilizer rates in favor of Charleston. The roads against which the charge was made are the Charleston and Savannah, Plant system, Clyde Line of steamships, Louisville and Nashville, and the Atlantic Short Line. Fertilizers, it is claimed, have been shipped through Savannah for Charleston and Georgia points at lower rates than could be secured from Savannah.

Ex-Governor McKinney's Critical Condition.

Farmville, Va., April 7.—Ex-Governor P. W. McKinney continues to grow weaker although several times today he seemed to rally. His condition is critical. For two or three days past he has been almost continually delirious, not recognizing those about him beside. While the governor's passing away at any moment would not be a surprise to his physicians, yet they assert that all hope of his ultimate recovery is not gone.

General Lee Not Treated With Incivility.

Havana, April 7.—Consul General Lee's attention having been called by a representative of the Associated Press to a published statement that he had been treated with incivility when visiting the captain general's palace, said that this was an error as, without exception he had been received there whenever he had called with all courtesy. General Lee particularly desires to have any misrepresentation on this point removed.

General Rivera Not to be Executed.

Washington, April 7.—Secretary Sherman stated tonight that he had assurances that General Rivera, the insurgent leader, would not be executed, but would be treated as a prisoner of war. General Rivera was captured after being wounded in a recent battle, and it was feared for a time that he would be executed by the Spanish authorities for his participation in the rebellion.

The Dauntless to be Allowed to Leave Port.

Jacksonville, Fla., April 7.—The steamer Dauntless was taken into the custody of the United States court today on motion of the attorney for the owner of the boat. The bond was ordered canceled and a deputy marshal was placed in charge. The steamer will now be permitted to leave port, though permission was refused by the treasury department.